Explaining and Creating Aphorisms

Mr. Daniels – Junior English

An aphorism is a brief saying embodying a moral, a concise statement of a principle or standard given in pointed words.

Below are several **aphorisms** said by various individual throughout history. In groups of 2-3, read each aphorism and determine as a group what you believe it means and write that meaning below the given phrase.

1. No gains without pains.
2. Keep your shop, and your shop will keep you.
3. What you would seem to be, be really.
4. At the working man’s house hunger looks in, but dares not enter.
5. Good friends stab you in the front.
6. Practice makes perfect.
7. Life is like a box of chocolates. You never know what you’re going to get.
8. 'Tis better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all.
9. By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail.

Create Your Own Aphorism – Within your group, create your own aphorism about something in life. Whether it is love, hate, success, failure, happiness, wealth, or poverty (or any other truth you’d like to uncover), write an aphorism that you believe provides a short, concise truth about life, and then explain what that aphorism means.



Explanation -